(a) whether Government propose to set up a Defence University in Haryana;

(b) if so, the place where this University is to be set up; and

(c) by when the work in this regard is likely to start and the University would become functional?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The issue of establishment of National Defence University (NDU) is under examination in the Ministry of Defence.

(b) No final decision on its location has been taken so far.

(c) It cannot be indicated at this stage by what time the NDU will become functional.

Production of SU-30 by HAL

114. MISS MABEL REBELLO :

SHRI B.J. PANDA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that HAL propose to bring out SU-30s next year;

(b) if so, whether our engineers are now fully capable of manufacturing this in the country and how our engineers are proposed to be trained; and

(c) whether all the problems which earlier had dogged the engine system, have been sorted out and a fully safe-proof system has been developed by our own men?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The first SU-30 MKI aircraft is planned to be delivered to the Indian Air Force in 2004-2005.

(b) A General Contract for licence production of SU-30 MKI aircraft at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been signed between M/s Rosobrornexport, Russia and HAL on 28th December 2000. As per the contract, the Russian side will provide the technical support and training to HAL's specialists.

(c) SU-30 MKI aircraft will be powered with an advanced, high technology AL-31 F P engine, which will be manufactured at HAL under Transfer of Technology.